

Central Intelligence Agency
Office of the Deputy Director for Intelligence

7 OCT 1985

NOTE FOR: DDCI

Attached is a token response to
Matt Meselson's note.



Robert M. Gates
Deputy Director for Intelligence

Attachment:
As stated

Central Intelligence Agency

DDI- ~~04998/85~~



Washington, D. C. 20505

Dr. Matthew Meselson
Department of Biochemistry
and Molecular Biology
Harvard University
7 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Dr. Meselson:

Thank you for the article describing your investigations of bee feces. While there is little doubt that some yellow spots collected in Southeast Asia and alleged to have come from chemical weapons attack sites are in fact bee feces, the identification of trichothecene toxins in other environmental samples and in blood and tissues of victims cannot be denied. Our results have been independently confirmed in multiple laboratories both domestically and abroad. Therefore, on the basis of all the information available to the Intelligence Community, we stand firm in our belief that trichothecene toxins have been used in Southeast Asia and Afghanistan.

Sincerely,

John N. McMahon
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Letter to Dr. Meselson

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OSWR/STD/LSB,

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(2 October 85)

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